



Regional Service Council Minutes

Region # 15

Meeting Date: April 20, 2011
Meeting Location: Ripley County DCS Training Room

Council Members Present:

Jennifer Tackitt, Sandra Ante, Michelle R. Smith, Gary W. Keith, Barbara J Bowling, Natalie Williams (rep for Judge Taul), Tisha Linzy, Dena Steiner (rep for Judge Humphrey), Amy Phillips, Rob King, Melissa Hayden

Council Members Absent:

Judge Ted Todd (or rep), Cindi Wagner

Others In Attendance:

Kristin Obermeyer, Bob Daugherty, Cathy Piche, Bev Karazia, Trish Crowe, Dan Turner, Kim Kirchner, Sue Fisher, Norm Smith, Rhea Murray, Rick Humbarger, Sven Sclurura

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order at: 10:00 a.m.

I. Biennial Plan

- A. Process will begin with the first meeting being held after the RSC. It will consist of LOD's, Kristin Obermeyer, Jennifer Tackitt, Tisha Linzy, and other community members, which will be discussed in more detail during the Biennial meeting. The Child Protection Plan will be through Central Office and incorporated into the Biennial Plan. There will be a total of 6 meetings (workgroups) beginning today until February 2012. Surveys will be sent to DCS staff and community members regarding the region's needs.

II. RFP – Engaging Fathers Program

- A. State will be accepting bids for service contracts for D & E, HB Casework and therapy, Homemaker and Counseling. Some areas in the state are short on HB services. If interested – visit our website for updates on process (www.dcs.in.gov & go to *current providers...*) An email will be sent to providers as well.

III. BUDGET – Bob Daugherty

- A. Handout – Expenses vs Budget; broken down by region. Region 15 is over budget by approx 6%. Probation placements are up but DCS placements are down.
1. Average cost per child is \$8,024 – also shows each county's ave.
 2. Jennifer offered assistance to Probation liaisons regarding placements. Jennifer explained it is not that we don't want them placing – but want to ensure it is the best placement for the child. Encouraged them to contact the LOD.
 3. Probation expressed frustration their programs do not involve funding to service parents. They can provide HB services that include them but they are child based. SOC can only service Medicaid families.

IV. COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- A. Reports from subcontractors – received responses from all but five. Currently \$9800 over budget – however, it appears we may have surplus of \$20,000.
- B. Contracts are up at the end of June. RFP's will be based on past needs. Accountability measures will be put in place.

V. OTHER

- A. YES Home – Currently have 17 ½ 16 and 14 yr old placed and they are not in school. Two were homebound with special needs. However, they are seeing this more and more. Kids are not eligible to take GED until a certain age and cannot quit school until a certain age...? What type of assistance is there to get these children educated? Discussed computer program each district should provide. YES Home uses this when available, but it doesn't address special needs and not all schools will accept the credits. They are willing to pay for an educator to come in and tutor these kids, but not sure how this will affect their license. Jennifer suggested a CFTM to address educational needs of these kids. Jennifer also asked if they could stay and address these concerns in our biennial strategic plan meeting.

B. Service Providers asked when they would be receiving information regarding contracts for next year. Kristen states they are coming and should be sent via email. If there are problems – please feel free to contact her by email Kristin.Obermeyer@dcs.in.gov or at the Decatur County DCS office: 812-663-6768, ext. 12530.

Next Meeting Date, Location and Time:

JUNE 15 / Ripley County DCS Training Room / 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Adjourned at: 11:00 a.m.